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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 30th MEETING

Chairman:	Mr. PATOKALLIO (Vice-Chairman)	(Finland)
later:	Mr. ELARABY (Chairman)	(Egypt)

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In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Patokallio (Finland), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 4.35 p.m.

AGENDA ITEMS 49 to 65, 68 and 142; 67 and 69 (continued)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS UNDER ALL DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AGENDA ITEMS

The CHAIRMAN: I call on the representative of Sri Lanka, who will introduce the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (A/47/29).

Mr. KALPAGE (Sri Lanka): I have the honour to introduce the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean (A/47/29). The report is in three sections: introduction; work of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1992; and conclusion.

The General Assembly, by its resolution 46/49, noted

"with satisfaction the preparatory work done by the Ad Hoc Committee in the implementation of the mandate entrusted to it for the convening of the Conference [on the Indian Ocean]". (resolution 46/49, para. 4)

The General Assembly decided that

"the Conference should be structured in more than one stage" (para. 5).

It also decided to

"convene the first stage of the Conference at Colombo in 1993, or as soon as possible, in accordance with the present resolution and in consultation with the host country" (para. 6)

- Sri Lanka.

The General Assembly called for

"the full and active participation in the Conference of the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean, whose cooperation and participation are essential for the success of the Conference". (para. 8)

(Mr. Kalpagé, Sri Lanka)

The General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Committee would hold a session of five working days in 1992 to perform its preparatory functions for the various stages envisaged for the Conference. In accordance with the terms of this mandate, the Ad Hoc Committee held a session of five working days, from 18 to 22 May 1992, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Prior to that session, at the request of the officers of the Ad Hoc Committee, I held consultations with the three permanent members of the Security Council which had withdrawn from the Committee, and with several major maritime users of the Indian Ocean which did not participate in its work, regarding their full participation in the Conference, and I reported to the Committee. The full text of my statement is contained in the annex to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee.

During its deliberations, the Ad Hoc Committee took note of my report, in which I, inter alia, reported on my consultations with three permanent members of the Security Council and with some of the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean, in the course of which they conveyed the view that they would not find it possible to participate in a Conference based on the 1971 Declaration.

In view of those facts, the Committee felt that it might not be possible to hold the Conference at Colombo in 1993 in accordance with resolution 46/49.

The Ad Hoc Committee agreed on the importance of the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace to achieve the goals contained in 1971 Declaration and as considered at the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979.

(Mr. Kalpagé, Sri Lanka)

The Committee was therefore of the view that the General Assembly might wish

"to consider alternative approaches to achieve the objectives of resolution 46/49." (A/47/29, para. 14)

The Ad Hoc Committee recalled that it was the Lusaka Summit of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in September 1970 which led to the 1971 Declaration on the Indian Ocean. In this connection, the Ad Hoc Committee thought it appropriate for its Chairman to report on developments to the tenth Summit Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

The Ad Hoc Committee felt that its Chairman should continue to conduct informal consultations with the permanent members of the Security Council, the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean and the members of the Ad Hoc Committee.

I might add that I reported on the developments in the Ad Hoc Committee to the tenth Summit Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Jakarta. In its Final Document the Conference indicated the position of the Non-Aligned Movement regarding the importance of a zone of peace in the Indian Ocean and recommended that the Ad Hoc Committee should continue to work on new alternative approaches to realizing its goal.

A draft resolution for consideration by the First Committee will be presented shortly. Every endeavour will be made to obtain a consensus both among members of the Ad Hoc Committee and among those Members who are not at present participating in its work. It is my earnest hope that the consideration of new alternative approaches to achieve the goals of the

(Mr. Kalpagé, Sri Lanka)

General Assembly will facilitate the participation of all the permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the future work of the Ad Hoc Committee as entrusted to it by the General Assembly.

Ms. MASON (Canada): I refer this afternoon to agenda item 52, on verification in all its aspects.

In resolution 45/65 the General Assembly adopted by consensus the report of the Group of Qualified Governmental Experts to Undertake a Study on the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Verification. Among the recommendations of that report was the development of a United Nations

> "consolidated data bank of published materials and data provided on a voluntary basis by Member States on all aspects of verification and compliance." (A/45/372, annex, para. 263)

Last year Canada conveyed to the United Nations an electronically readable version - that is, a computer disk - of the Canadian publication entitled Bibliography on Arms Control Verification: 1962-1991. Hard copies - that is, printed texts - were also made available here to Member States. Since that time a considerable amount of new literature on the subject of verification has appeared. As part of Canada's continuing support for the experts' study, it gives me great pleasure to state today that we have prepared an update of the earlier bibliography. This update, which follows the same format as the earlier document, contains over 800 new entries.

(Ms. Mason, Canada)

As was true concerning the original bibliography, our intention in providing it is to give further assistance to the United Nations in its efforts to set up a consolidated verification data base. We also hope that the bibliography will assist officials, diplomats and researchers in their work on this subject. For this reason we will be distributing the hard-copy version widely within the First Committee and outside the United Nations. Copies of the text are available in this Conference Room.

Finally, as I have said in the past when speaking to the First Committee, I urge other Member States with relevant experience in the field of verification to make similar contributions. The usefulness of the United Nations consolidated data bank will be determined in large measure by the support it receives from Members.

The CHAIRMAN: I call next on the representative of the United Kingdom, who will introduce draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.8.

Sir Michael WESTON (United Kingdom): Before speaking on behalf of the United Kingdom to introduce, on behalf of its sponsors, the draft resolution entitled "Guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters" (A/C.1/47/L.8), I should like to make a statement on nuclear matters on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

In the statement I delivered on behalf of the European Community and its member States in the general debate, on 12 October, I noted that nuclear disarmament continues to be one of the highest priorities of the Community and its member States in the field of arms control and disarmament. I also set out our common positions on many aspects of this subject. I should also recall that earlier this year we introduced into Working Group II of the Disarmament Commission a working paper containing an extensive statement of our views on nuclear issues. Today I should like to make some additional remarks which reflect our common views on some of the draft resolutions on nuclear issues which have been put before us.

We have have all noticed, and welcomed, the excellent atmosphere in the Committee this year and the continued development of the trend of recent years towards compromise. One of the most important manifestations of this spirit this year has been the successful negotiation of a single draft resolution text on "Bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament" (A/C.1/47/L.36). Those of us who have been involved in attempts to produce a single text in previous years know what a significant breakthrough this represents. We confidently look forward to its adoption without a vote.

The draft resolution welcomes an impressive list of achievements: the continued implementation of the Treaty on the elimination of

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles (INF Treaty); the signing of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START Treaty) and its Lisbon Protocol; the unilateral decisions on further significant reductions, on the elimination of certain nuclear weapons and on the enhancement of stability; and the Joint Understanding on substantial further reductions, and the agreement to turn this also into a formal treaty.

These developments will lead to a considerable enhancement of international peace and security, and we hope they will be implemented under the best possible conditions of safety and transparency.

However, the draft resolution also recognizes that much will have to be done to bring all these important elements to fruition. The adoption of this resolution by the General Assembly will offer the two Member States - the Russian Federation and the United States of America - the full encouragement and support of the membership of the United Nations in this task. The Community and its member States share in offering this encouragement, and our support includes not only moral but also practical aspects, for example our involvement in the establishment of the International Science and Technology Centre in Russia.

The two members of the Community which are nuclear-weapon States have also made a meaningful contribution to the process of nuclear disarmament, in particular by making reductions in some of their nuclear-weapon programmes as described in recent national statements.

This year sees two draft resolutions on the question of nuclear testing, A/C.1/47/L.37 and L.38. While the member States of the European Community

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

have differing views on these draft resolutions, we note with attention the evolution of thinking on these issues which has taken place in the recent past, including the current moratoriums on nuclear testing which have been put into effect by several nuclear-weapon States, as well as the recent proposal by the Foreign Minister of France that the representatives of the five nuclear-weapon States to the Conference on Disarmament, in Geneva, should consult on nuclear-testing issues. We believe that nuclear-test-ban issues should continue to be actively addressed and to be given priority in the Conference on Disarmament, in Geneva. On the other hand, we are not convinced that it would be opportune to reconvene the Partial Test Ban Treaty Amendment Conference at this time and we shall not, therefore, be able to support draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.38.

In the context of the bilateral process I mentioned the Lisbon Protocol. In this regard also the Community and its member States attach particular importance to early adherence to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as non-nuclear weapon States by Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, and the removal of all nuclear weapons from their territory.

We welcome the accessions to the Non-Proliferation Treaty since this time last year by China and France; their accession means that all five nuclear-weapon States are now parties. We also welcome the accession by Azerbaijan, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Namibia, Niger, Slovenia and Uzbekistan, bringing the total membership to 154 States. We hope that this trend will continue and that the goal of universal adherence will soon be achieved.

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

The Community and its member States welcome the successful outcome of the meeting of States Parties to the NPT, held on 22 October under the skilful chairmanship of Mr. Ibanez of Peru, which took the necessary decisions related to the establishment of a Preparatory Committee for the 1995 Conference of the Treaty. It now remains to adopt the related draft resolution in document A/C.1/47/L.6.

Once again the Committee has before it a series of draft resolutions on nuclear-weapon-free zones. The Community and its Member States consider such zones, when they are supported by all States of the region and embodied through appropriate treaties, including provision for full-scope IAEA safeguards, as an important contribution to global and regional security. We particularly welcome the initiative of the African States recorded in draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14 to draw up a draft treaty or convention on the denuclearization of Africa. We similarly welcome the news that significant steps have been taken towards bringing the Treaty of Tlatelolco into force for the whole zone of application, including ratification by France of Additional Protocol I, and we shall support draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.40, which encourages this process.

We welcome the fact that draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.11 is once again likely to achieve consensus and express the hope that the States involved will soon start substantive negotiations to bring the idea of a Middle East nuclear-weapon-free-zone Treaty into formal reality. Similarly we support the idea of a treaty to confer legally binding nuclear-free status upon the area of South Asia. Here too we would welcome the involvement of all States of the region in appropriate discussions.

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

I should now like to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/47/L.8, entitled "Guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters".

This draft resolution is sponsored by Austria, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Romania, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

It was in 1988 that the United Kingdom first introduced a draft resolution to this Committee on the subject of objective information on military matters. That draft resolution invited Member States to communicate their views on the subject to the Secretary-General. The following year we introduced a draft resolution asking the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) to consider the question.

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

The introduction of this new agenda item coincided with the reforms in the United Nations Disarmament Commission, and it became the first item given a fixed term of three years for completion. We are pleased that this first experiment with the new procedures has turned out so successfully.

In the first year of consideration Ambassador Hohenfellner of Austria presided over the Working Group and stimulated a lively and well-focused debate on the issues related to use of objective information. Ambassador Erdös of Hungary took up the baton in the second year and was able to collect and collate a wide range of textual proposals. This year Ambassador Hyltenius of Sweden, who had perhaps the hardest task, turned this raw material into a single coherent document, which commanded consensus in the Commission. We offer our warm thanks to all three for their skilful and hard work and to all delegations on the Disarmament Commission for the true spirit of compromise which was manifest.

The draft resolution which we are proposing this year is largely procedural; it is primarily intended to provide the Guidelines and Recommendations for Objective Information on Military Matters with the endorsement of the General Assembly. The language of the draft reflects that of the Guidelines themselves where appropriate.

I should perhaps explain that the deadline of 31 May 1994 for providing relevant information to the Secretary-General is not intended to prevent subsequent communications. It is simply that, for practical reasons, the Secretariat will need to receive by then any contributions which are to be incorporated in the report which the Secretary-General is to submit to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

(Sir Michael Weston, United Kingdom)

The sponsors hope that, just as the Disarmament Commission adopted the Guidelines and Recommendations for Objective Information on Military Matters by consensus, draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.8 can be adopted without a vote.

The CHAIRMAN: I now call on the representative of Mexico, who will introduce draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.38.

Mr. MARIN BOSCH (Mexico) (interpretation from Spanish): Draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.38 comes under agenda item 53, "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water".

Three of the nuclear-weapon States have unilaterally decided to observe moratoriums on nuclear testing. This is an important step that allows us to glimpse the beginning of the end of nearly a half century of testing, first in the atmosphere and then underground. The 1963 partial test-ban Treaty was an important landmark in the search for a comprehensive test-ban, a goal we are today approaching.

In the nearly 30 years since the signing of the partial test-ban Treaty the international community has explored innumerable paths to achieve, in the words of the Treaty's preamble,

> "the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time" (ENDC/100/Rev.1, p. 1).

Year after year the General Assembly has urged nuclear-weapon States to proceed to the negotiation of a comprehensive test-ban treaty and has urged the Conference on Disarmament to establish an ad hoc committee on the matter. The Conference on Disarmament has done so sporadically, while avoiding the word "negotiation" in the ad hoc committee's mandate. For their part, the partial test-ban Treaty Depositary Governments have held trilateral and,

(Mr. Marín Bosch, Mexico)

sometimes, bilateral consultations. For a number of years the Conference on Disarmament has convened a group of expert seismologists to consider some aspects of the verification of a possible comprehensive test-ban treaty.

But we are still without a comprehensive test-ban treaty. That is why a group of six countries have taken the initiative of convening, in accordance with the provisions of the 1963 Treaty, a conference of the Parties to that Treaty to consider a proposed amendment to turn it into a permanent, comprehensive test-ban treaty. That initiative received broad support, and in January 1991 a substantive session of the Amendment Conference was held. Since then, the President of the Amendment Conference, the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Mr. Ali Alatas, has been holding consultations.

Today I have the honour to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.38 on agenda item 53, entitled "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water", sponsored by the delegations of Bahamas, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Mexico.

In the draft, the General Assembly notes the ongoing consultations being conducted by the President of the Amendment Conference. In order to evaluate the situation and ensure coordination between the Amendment Conference and the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, a brief - I emphasize "brief" - meeting of States parties will be held in the second quarter of 1993. The draft also

> "Calls upon all parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water to participate in, and to contribute to the success of, the Amendment Conference for the achievement of a comprehensive nuclear-test ban at an early date, as an

(Mr. Marín Bosch, Mexico)

indispensable measure towards implementation of their undertakings in the preamble to the Treaty". (A/C.1/47/L.38, para. 2)

The sponsors of draft resolution L.38 are convinced that the amendment process for the partial test-ban Treaty offers an opportunity that the international community must not let pass. We express the hope that the members of the First Committee will give the draft resolution their support and by so doing indicate their determination to explore whatever path may be open to them to achieve a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty.

The CHAIRMAN: I call on the representative of Togo, who will introduce draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.26/Rev.1.

Mr. PENNANEACH (Togo)(interpretation from French): It is a great privilege for me to introduce, on behalf of the Chairman of the Group of African States and the sponsors from other regional Groups, draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.26/Rev.1, "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

The draft resolution, which is submitted under agenda item 62, "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", is sponsored by the States Members that are members of the Group of African States, the States Members that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and 14 States of Asia and the Pacific: Bangladesh, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.*

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* The Chairman took the Chair.

(Mr. Pennaneach, Togo)

Set up in 1986, 1987 and 1989, respectively, the United Nations Regional Centres were given the primary role of giving States, upon request, functional support for their initiatives and efforts aimed at carrying out activities in favour of peace, disarmament and arms limitation. Thus the Centres have been disseminating information on peace, disarmament, security and development to Governments, students, researchers and to any individuals or legal entities interested in disarmament and development. They have also organized many seminars, held conferences and undertaken studies.

On 15 March 1991, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, based in Lomé, Togo, began a research project on border problems within the framework of activities related to the maintenance of peace and security in Africa. The first stage of this project, which has been concluded, consisted of research and documentation work by five researchers over a period of a year on border questions in the five African subregions: North Africa, southern Africa, Central Africa, East Africa and the Horn of Africa, and West Africa. Thereafter, the Centre organized an international seminar, during which 30 experts examined, studied and adopted the report of the five researchers.

The second stage of the project, which has not yet begun owing to lack of adequate resources, will include setting up in each African subregion a training programme for the peaceful settlement of border disputes that have been identified and discussed in the researchers' report.

Senior officials and other personalities likely to play a positive role in the settlement of border conflicts in Africa will benefit from such training. This second phase will start up as soon as financial conditions allow.

(Mr. Pennaneach, Togo)

All useful information about the life and programme of activity of the three Regional Centres is contained in the Secretary-General's report, document A/47/359 of 21 September 1992. A study of that report will show that the adopted programmes are rather ambitious and require significant resources in order to be implemented.

But as members know, the financial situation of the Centres in recent years has been a matter of concern and has compelled them to work at a slow pace despite the willingness and the dedication of those in charge. The Centres were set up on the basis of existing resources and voluntary contributions. At this stage, however, those so-called existing resources are not really available, and voluntary contributions are rather rare or, at the very least, come in at a trickle. But the Regional Centres are the external services of the United Nations, especially the Office of Disarmament Affairs, of which they are an integral part. As they are working to promote peace, security, disarmament and development, should they not survive at least as long as the United Nations?

The General Assembly adopted resolution 46/37 F on 9 December 1991. In that resolution the Assembly, while appealing for voluntary contributions from States, organizations and foundations, it decided that, to ensure the continued financial viability of the Regional Centres, their administrative costs would be financed from the regular budget, so as to enable them fully and effectively to face their responsibilities and discharge their role.

Draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.26/Rev.1, which I am now introducing, was worked out on the basis of the elements I have mentioned. It is the result of a long series of consultations, and in paragraph 4 merely calls for the full implementation of resolution 46/37 F, on which it is based.

(Mr. Pennaneach, Togo)

In making this request, the sponsors hope that differences will be ironed out and, hence, ask representatives to note that the full implementation of last year's resolution is an absolute requirement, since there has been no improvement in the financial situation of the Centres - a situation that has even worsened in some cases despite praiseworthy efforts on the part of the Governments of States that have offered to host these institutions.

In view of the foregoing, the sponsors would like, through me, to invite delegations in the Committee to be more mindful of the problem of Regional Centres, which in fact are our own tools to promote peace, security, disarmament and development on the national, subregional and regional levels. They hope that their appeal will be heeded.

Given the importance of the subject, the sponsors are fully prepared to continue consultations and study any constructive proposal aiming at ensuring the adoption of this draft resolution by consensus.

The CHAIRMAN: I now call on the representative of Kenya, who will introduce draft resolutions A/C.1/47/L.13 and L.14.

Mr. AMBEYI-LIGABO (Kenya): On behalf of Mauritius, Chairman of the African Group for the month of November, the delegation of Kenya has asked to speak to introduce two draft resolutions: draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14, under agenda item 59, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa"; and draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.13, under agenda item 61 (k), entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

Members will recall that 28 years ago in Cairo the African Heads of State adopted a Declaration on the need for the denuclearization of Africa. It is

(Mr. Ambeyi-Ligabo, Kenya)

in pursuance of this noble aim and objective, and also as part of our effort at general and complete disarmament, that draft resolution L.14 is brought before the Committee.

In preparing draft resolution L.14, we considered several reports, among them the report of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), as well as the Agency's resolution GC(XXXVI)/RES/577 on South Africa's nuclear capabilities, adopted on 25 September 1992 by its General Conference. We considered the report of the group of experts to examine the modalities and elements for the preparation and implementation of a convention or a treaty on the denuclearization of Africa, set up jointly by the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, which met at Lomé from 28 to 30 April 1992.

We also took into consideration the views of various delegations - in particular members of the European Economic Community and other Western countries - which they expressed last year.

(Mr. Ambeyi-Ligabo, Kenya)

The African Group has held extensive consultations with many delegations with regard to both draft resolutions A/C.1/47/L.14 and A/C.1/47/L.13.

Draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14 merges into one text part A and part B of last year's draft resolution. The developments that have enabled us to merge the two parts are reflected in the reports I mentioned earlier and also in the African desire to move to the next important stage: drafting the treaty or convention and then implementing the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

In view of this positive convergence of views on draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14, the African Group believes that the evolution of the international situation is conducive to the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa. We are also convinced that the drafting of the convention or treaty and the implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa will be an important step towards the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the promotion of international peace and security.

In paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14, we commend the Secretary-General for the diligence with which he has rendered effective assistance to the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in organizing the meetings of the group of experts. On the same note, we wish to thank Mr. Davinic, the Acting Director of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, and Mr. Ogunbanwo, of the same Office, for providing valuable advice to this group of experts, entrusted with the task of preparing elements for a treaty or convention on the denuclearization of Africa. We hope they will continue to play that role.

(Mr. Ambeyi-Ligabo, Kenya)

We ask delegations, in considering this draft resolution, to weigh the cost of just one more meeting of the group of experts to finalize the drafting of the treaty or convention against the benefit that will be achieved in terms of our overall disarmament efforts. We wish to place it on record that the cost of one extra meeting will not be more than that of the meeting held last year, and we are convinced that this one extra meeting will give us ample time to finalize our draft treaty or covention on the denuclearization of Africa.

The overwhelming majority of nations desire a world free of nuclear weapons. We all strive for total nuclear disarmament, the elimination of nuclear weapons from the Earth's surface. It is in this spirit of disarmament that the African Group wishes to introduce draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.14, which is on an issue of special significance to our continent, and we hope that the Committee will adopt it withour a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.13 has almost all the elements that are contained in resolution 46/36 K of 1991. While preparing draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.13, we took note of resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which established a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste. We also took note of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991 of the OAU Council of Ministers, on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa.

The majority of African States do not have the appropriate technology for the quick detection, identification or differentiation of the waste that is being dumped into our continent. The Committee is also aware that most of the companies that deal in this unscrupulous business are not under the control of

(Mr. Ambeyi-Ligabo, Kenya)

the Governments of their country of origin, and there is therefore a tendency for them to mislabel certain consignments. When they are radioactive, for example, they can mislabel them in another fashion to make it possible to dump them in a country. It is on this premise that African States condemn and oppose any dumping of any kind of waste, not only radioactive, but all kinds of waste that are injurious or harmful to populations or the environment. This is a sensitive matter for all African delegations, for we believe any dumping will definitely have grave implications for the national security of States - not only African States, but all States.

The African Group has taken note of the concern of some delegations with regard to paragraph 3. While we are working hard to achieve the same consensus on this draft resolution as was achieved on the relevant draft resolution in 1991, we hope that other delegations will take note of our sensitivity on this issue, and we hope something reasonable will emerge that can accommodate all of us.

Finally, we urge all Member States to support this draft resolution so that we may adopt it without a vote as was the case last year for the relevant draft resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to remind members that, in accordance with the programme of work and the timetable, the Committee will proceed to take action tomorrow, Thursday, 12 November, in the morning, on the following draft resolution in cluster 1:

A/C.1/47/L.1/Rev.2, L.3, L.5, L.6, L.7, L.8, L.10, L.16, L.18, L.20/Rev.1, L.21, L.23, L.24, L.27, L.28/Rev.1, L.30, L.39, and L.42/Rev.1.

I should like to inform members that the Committee will take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/47/L.4, entitled "Report of the Disarmament

(The Chairman)

Commission", at a later stage. I have been informed by the Chairman of the United Nations Disarmament Commission that the sponsors of the draft resolution have requested more time for further consultations.

If time permits, following the conclusion of action on cluster 1, the Committee will proceed to take action on draft resolutions contained in cluster 2. Thereafter it will be my intention to move, in so far as possible, sequentially from one cluster to another upon the conclusion of action on each cluster.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. KHERADI (Secretary of the Committee): I should like to inform the Committee that the following States have become sponsors of the following draft resolutions:

A/C.1/47/L.4:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.11:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.15:	Nepal, New Zealand, Samoa, Nigeria and Argentina;
A/C.1/47/L.18:	Armenia, Bolivia and Moldova;
A/C.1/47/L.20/Rev.1:	Bolivia and Honduras;
A/C.1/47/L.22:	Bolivia, Moldova and Samoa;
A/C.1/47/L.23:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.24:	Armenia, Paraguay and Qatar;
A/C.1/47/L.25:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.26:	Bolivia;
A/C.1/47/L.27:	Armenia;

(Mr. Kheradi)

A/C.1/47/L.29:	Armenia and the Republic of Moldova;
A/C.1/47/L.30:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.35:	Armenia, Slovenia, Romania and the Republic of Moldova;
A/C.1/47/L.36:	Armenia;
A/C.1/47/L.37:	Slovenia, Luxembourg, Portugal and Spain;
A/C.1/47/L.38:	Bolivia;
A/C.1/47/L.42/Rev.1:	Armenia, Denmark, Slovenia and Romania.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.